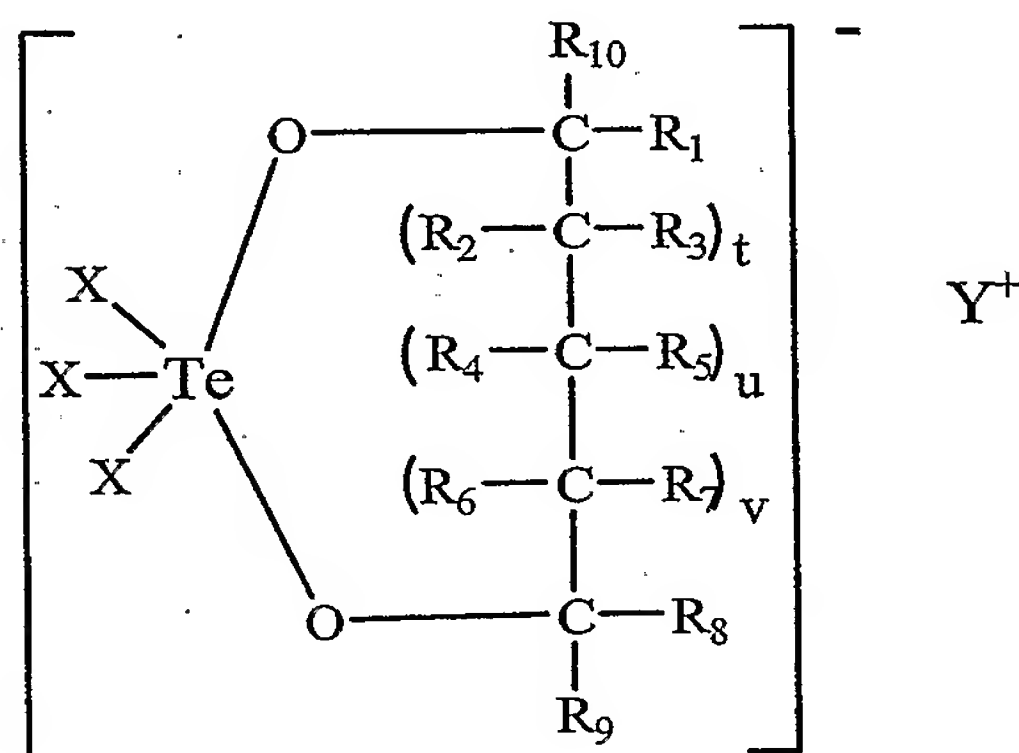


## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

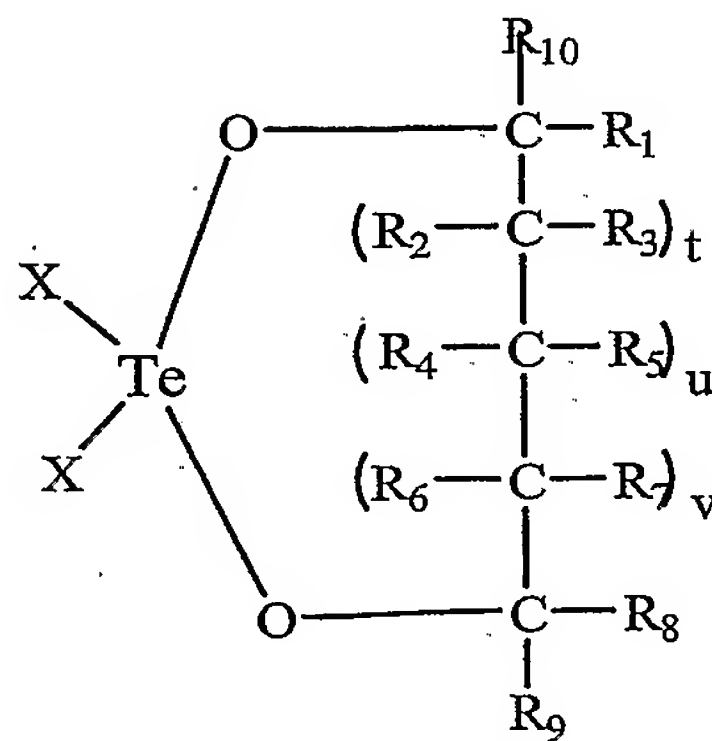
1. A method of treating a skin or mucosal membrane ailment caused by a human papilloma virus (HPV) in a subject in need thereof, the method comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of at least one tellurium-containing compound.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one tellurium-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of tellurium dioxide ( $\text{TeO}_2$ ), a complex of  $\text{TeO}_2$ , a compound having general Formula I:



Formula I

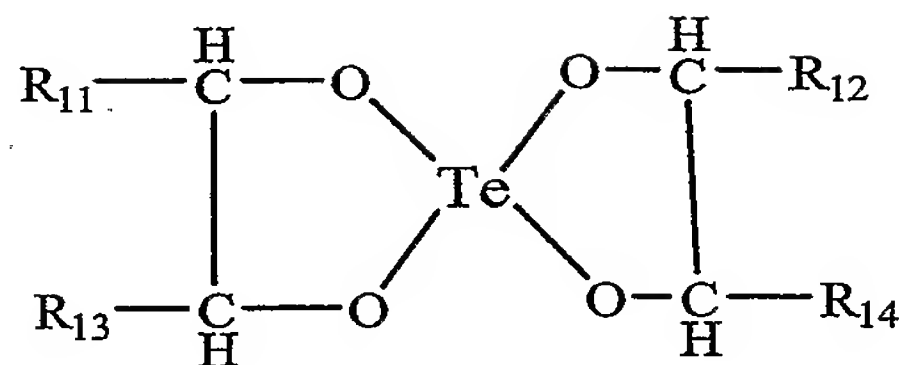
a compound having general Formula II:



Formula II

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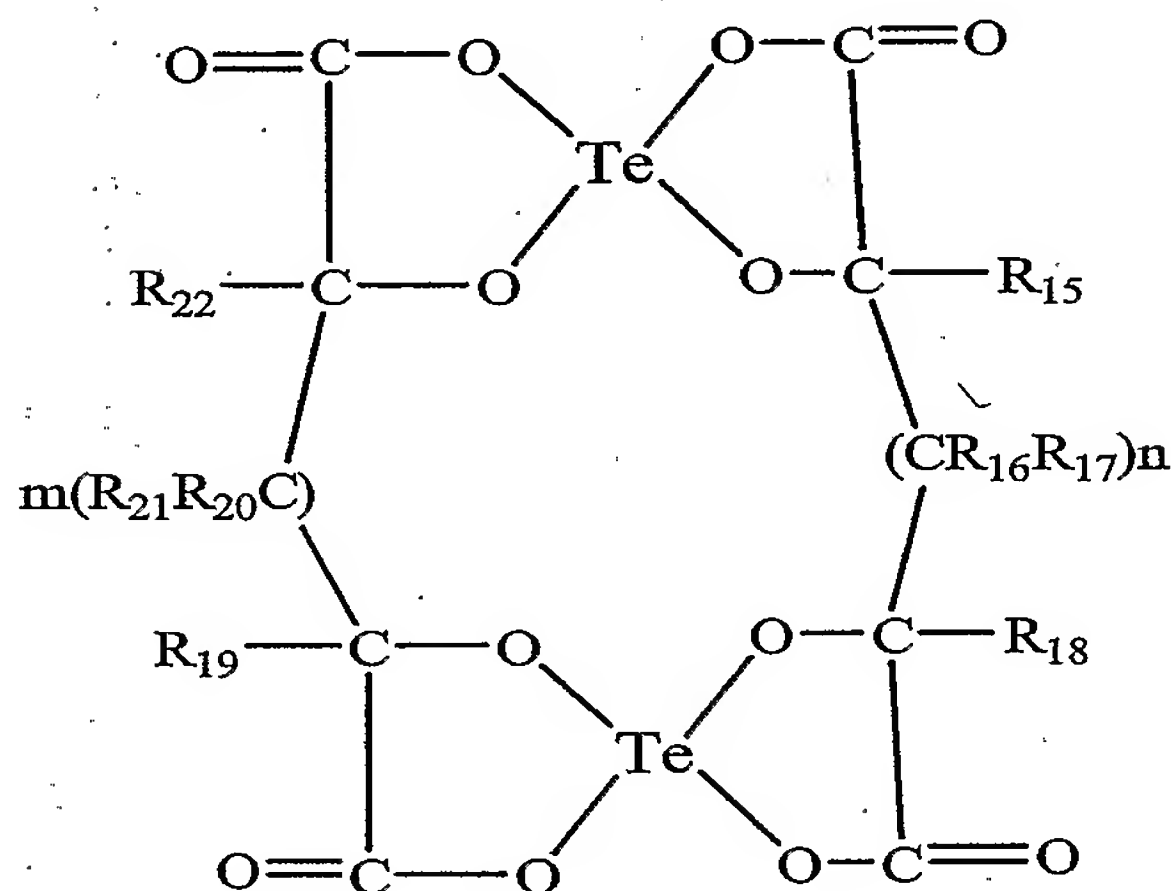
a compound having general Formula III:



Formula III

and

a compound having general Formula IV:



Formula IV

wherein:

each of t, u and v is independently 0 or 1;

each of m and n is independently an integer from 0 to 3;

Y is selected from the group consisting of ammonium, phsophonium, potassium, sodium and lithium;

X is a halogen atom; and

each of R<sub>1</sub>-R<sub>22</sub> is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxy, thiohydroxy, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, thioalkoxy, halogen, haloalkyl, carboxy, carbonyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, carboxyalkyl, acyl, amido, cyano, N-monoalkylamidoalkyl, N,N-dialkylamidoalkyl, cyanoalkyl,

alkoxyalkyl, carbamyl, cycloalkyl, heteroalicyclic, sulfonyl, sulfinyl, sulfate, amine, aryl, heteroaryl, phosphate, phosphonate and sulfoneamido.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said tellurium-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of a compound having said general Formula I and a compound having said general Formula II.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein t, u and v are each 0.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein each of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>9</sub> and R<sub>10</sub> is hydrogen.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein X is a halogen atom.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein X is chloro.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein Y is ammonium.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein Y is phsophonium.

10. The method of claim 2, wherein said tellurium-containing compound has said general Formula III.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein each of R<sub>11</sub>-R<sub>14</sub> is hydrogen.

12. The method of claim 2, wherein said tellurium-containing compound has said general Formula IV.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein n and m are each 0.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein each of R<sub>15</sub>, R<sub>18</sub>, R<sub>19</sub> and R<sub>22</sub> is hydrogen.

15. The method of claim 2, wherein said complex of  $\text{TeO}_2$  is  $\text{TeO}_2 \cdot \text{HOCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH} \cdot \text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ .

16. The method of claim 1, wherein said administering is effected systemically.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said therapeutically effective amount ranges from about  $0.01 \text{ mg/m}^2/\text{day}$  to about  $10.0 \text{ mg/m}^2/\text{day}$ .

18. The method of claim 16, wherein said administering is effected topically.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein said administering is effected by applying said therapeutically effective amount of said at least one tellurium-containing compound onto a treated skin or mucosal membrane area.

20. The method of claim 1, wherein said skin or mucosal membrane ailment is selected from the group consisting of verruca vulgaris, plantar warts, palmar warts, periungual warts, planar warts, mosaic warts, genital warts, venereal warts (condylomata acuminata), butcher's warts, malignant epidermodysplasia verruciformis, advanced intraepithelial dysplasia, cervical cancer, mepidermodysplasia verruciformis, cutaneous warts in immunosuppressed patients, laryngeal papillomas and oral papilloma.

21. The method of claim 1, further comprising administering to the subject an additional active agent.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein said additional active agent is selected from the group consisting of an antibiotic agent, an antimicrobial agent, an anti-acne agent, an antibacterial agent, an antifungal agent, an antiviral agent, a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, an anesthetic agent, an antipruriginous agent, an antiprotozoal agent, an anti-oxidant, a

chemotherapeutic agent, an antidepressant, an anti histamine, a vitamin, a hormone, a keratolytic agent and an antidandruff agent.

23. The method of claim 1, further comprising administering to the subject at least one additional active agent being capable of treating said skin or mucosal membrane ailment caused by HPV.

24. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one tellurium-containing compound forms a part of a pharmaceutical composition, said pharmaceutical composition further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein a concentration of said at least one tellurium-containing compound ranges from about 0.01 weight percent to about 50 weight percents of the total weight of said composition.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein a concentration of said at least one tellurium-containing compound ranges from about 5 weight percents to about 25 weight percents of the total weight of said composition.

27. The method of claim 24, wherein said administering is effected topically and said pharmaceutical composition is being in a form selected from the group consisting of a cream, an ointment, a paste, a gel, a lotion, a milk, a suspension, a solution, an aerosol, a spray, a foam, a shampoo, a mousse, a serum, a swab, a pledget, a pad, a tincture, a patch and a soap.

28. The method of claim 24, wherein said pharmaceutical composition further comprises at least one additional active agent.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein said additional active agent is selected from the group consisting of an antibiotic agent, an antimicrobial agent, an anti-acne agent, an antibacterial agent, an antifungal agent, an antiviral agent, a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, an anesthetic agent, an antipruriginous agent, an antiprotozoal agent, an anti-oxidant, a

chemotherapeutic agent, an antidepressant, an anti histamine, a vitamin, a hormone, a keratolytic agent and an antidandruff agent.

30. The method of claim 24, wherein said pharmaceutical composition further comprises at least one additional active agent being capable of treating said skin or mucosal membrane ailment caused by HPV.

31. The method of claim 24, wherein said pharmaceutical composition further comprises at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of a humectant, a deodorant agent, an antiperspirant, a sun screening agent, a sunless tanning agent, a hair conditioning agent, a pH adjusting agent, a chelating agent, a preservative, an emulsifier, an occlusive agent, an emollient, a thickener, a solubilizing agent, a penetration enhancer, an anti-irritant, a colorant, a propellant and a surfactant.

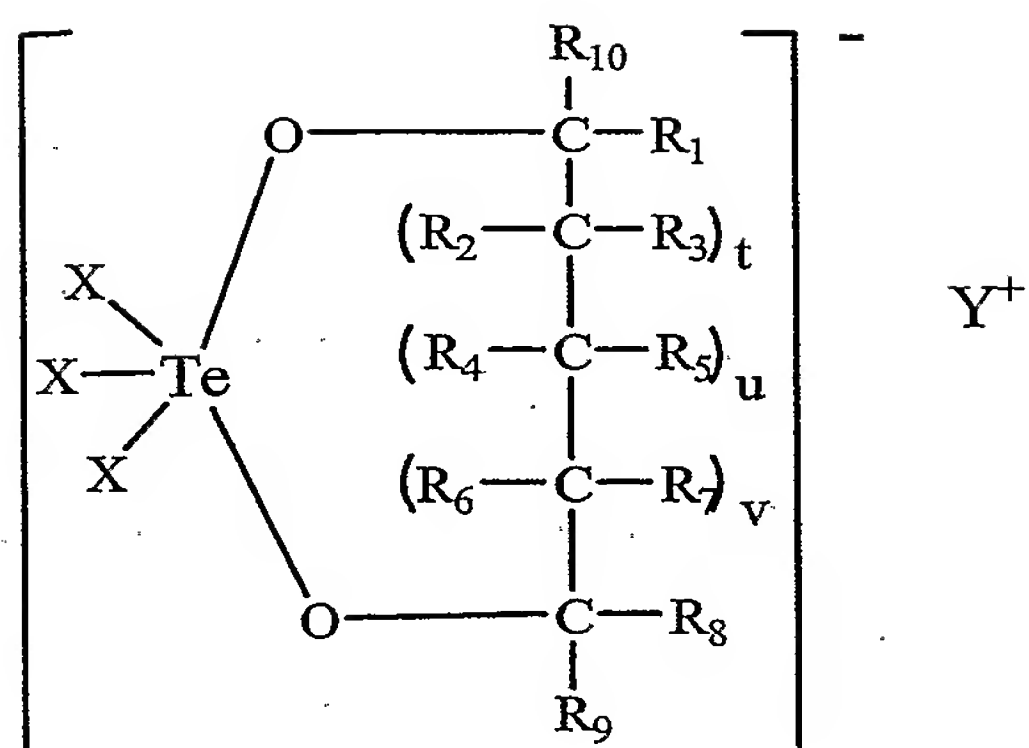
32. The method of claim 24, wherein said pharmaceutical composition has a pH that ranges from 4 to 7.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein said pharmaceutical composition has a pH that ranges from 4 to 6.

34. A pharmaceutical composition identified for use in the treatment of a skin or mucosal membrane ailment caused by a human papilloma virus (HPV), comprising at least one tellurium-containing compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

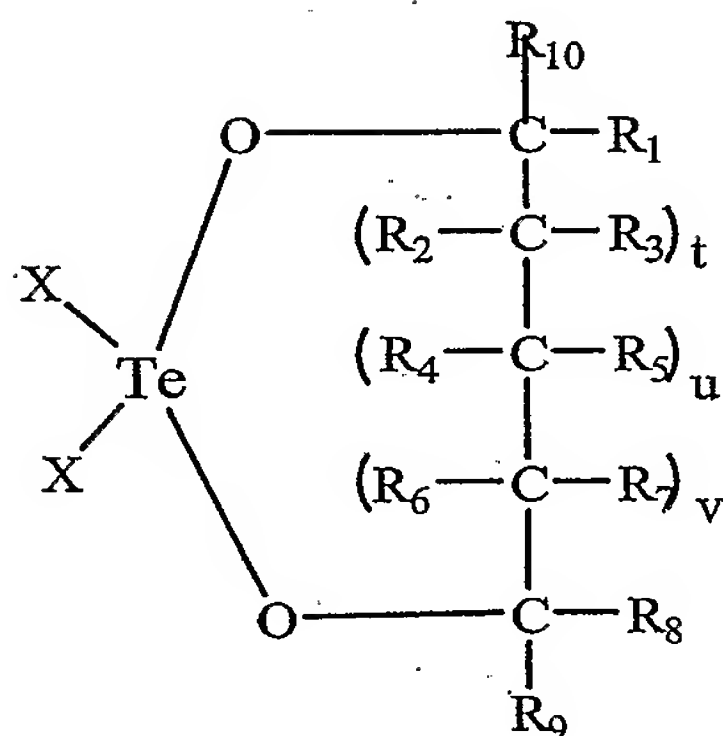
35. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 34, wherein said at least one tellurium-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of tellurium dioxide ( $\text{TeO}_2$ ), a complex of  $\text{TeO}_2$ , a compound having general Formula I:

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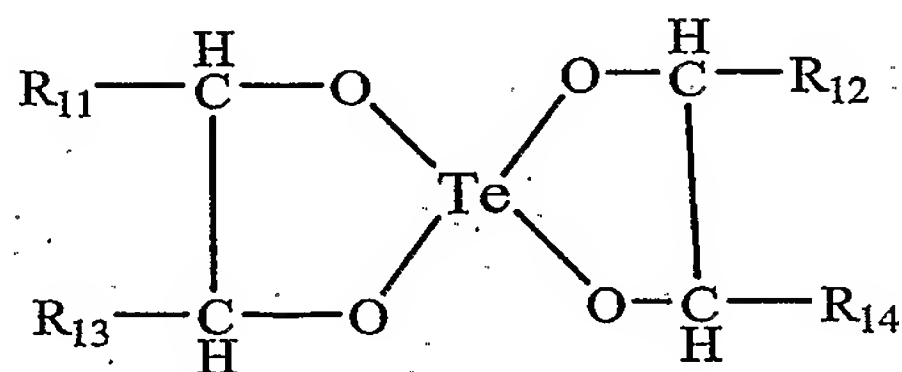
Formula I

a compound having general Formula II:



Formula II

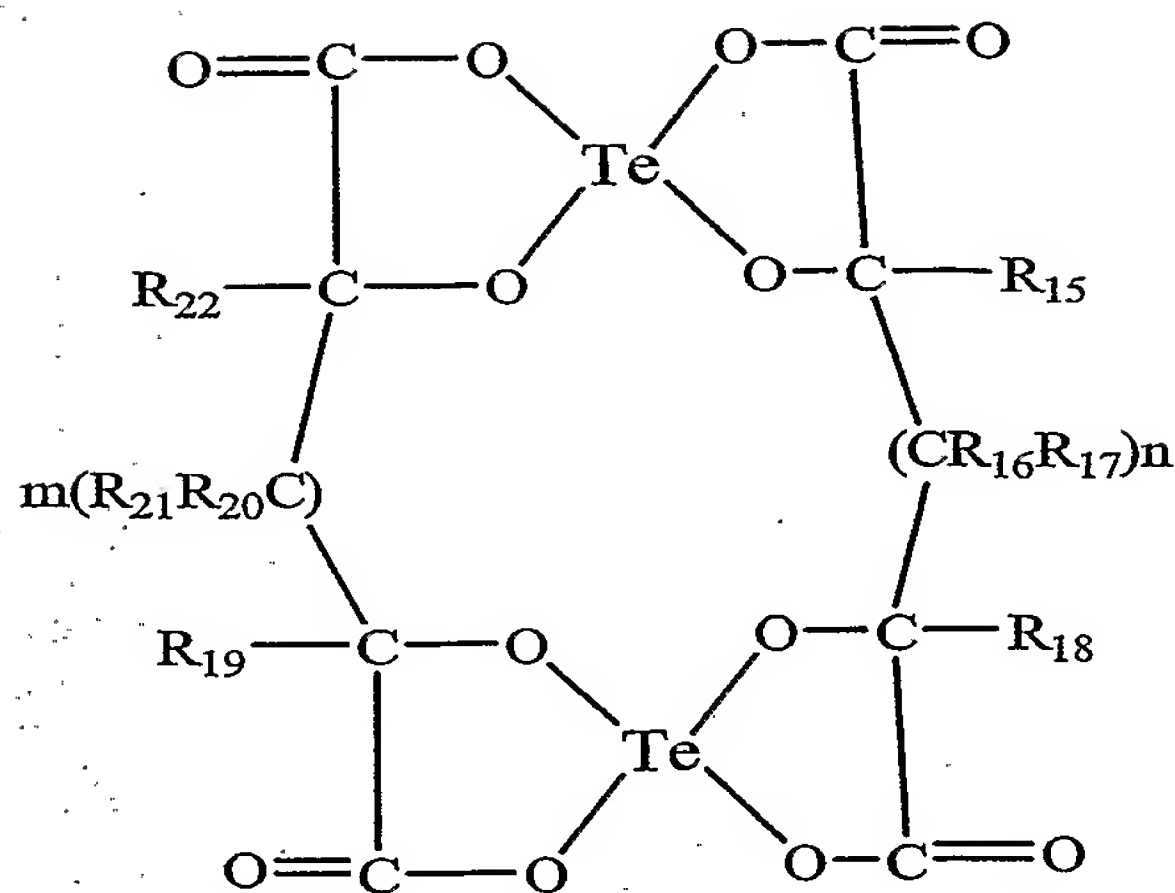
a compound having general Formula III:



Formula III

and

a compound having general Formula IV:



Formula IV

wherein:

each of t, u and v is independently 0 or 1;

each of m and n is independently an integer from 0 to 3;

X is a halogen atom;

Y is selected from the group consisting of ammonium, phosphonium, potassium, sodium and lithium; and

each of R<sub>1</sub>-R<sub>22</sub> is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxy, thiohydroxy, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, thioalkoxy, halogen, haloalkyl, carboxy, carbonyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, alkoxy, carboxyalkyl, acyl, amido, cyano, N-monoalkylamidoalkyl, N,N-dialkylamidoalkyl, cyanoalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, carbamyl, cycloalkyl, heteroalicyclic, sulfonyl, sulfanyl, amine, aryl, heteroaryl, phosphate, phosphonate and sulfoneamido..

36. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35, wherein said tellurium-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of a compound having said general Formula I and a compound having said general Formula II.

37. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 36, wherein t, u and v are each 0.



38. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 37, wherein each of  $R_1$ ,  $R_8$ ,  $R_9$  and  $R_{10}$  is hydrogen.

39. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 38, wherein X is halogen.

40. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 39, wherein X is chloride.

41. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 39, wherein Y is ammonium.

42. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 39, wherein Y is phosphonium.

43. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35, wherein said tellurium-containing compound has said general Formula III.

44. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 43, wherein each of  $R_{11}$ - $R_{14}$  is hydrogen.

45. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35, wherein said tellurium-containing compound has said general Formula IV.

46. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 45, wherein n and m are each 0.

47. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 46, wherein each of  $R_{15}$ ,  $R_{18}$ ,  $R_{19}$  and  $R_{22}$  is hydrogen.

48. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35, wherein said complex of  $TeO_2$  is  $TeO_2 \cdot HOCH_2CH_2OH \cdot NH_4Cl$ .

49. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 34, being formulated for systemic administration.

50. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 34, being formulated for topical administration.

51. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 50, wherein a concentration of said at least one tellurium-containing compound ranges from about 0.01 weight percent to about 50 weight percents of the total weight of the composition.

52. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 51, wherein a concentration of said at least one tellurium-containing compound ranges from about 5 weight percents to about 25 weight percents of the total weight of the composition.

53. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 50, being in a form selected from the group consisting of a cream, an ointment, a paste, a gel, a lotion, a milk, a suspension, a solution, an aerosol, a spray, a foam, a shampoo, a mousse, a serum, a swab, a pledget, a pad, a tincture, a patch and a soap.

54. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 34, further comprising at least one additional active agent.

55. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 54, wherein said additional active agent is selected from the group consisting of an antibiotic agent, an antimicrobial agent, an anti-acne agent, an antibacterial agent, an antifungal agent, an antiviral agent, a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, an anesthetic agent, an antipruriginous agent, an antiprotozoal agent, an anti-oxidant, a chemotherapeutic agent, an antidepressant, an anti histamine, a vitamin, a hormone, a keratolytic agent and an antidandruff agent.

56. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 34, further comprising at least one additional active agent being capable of treating said skin or mucosal membrane ailment caused by HPV.

57. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 34, further comprising at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of a humectant, a deodorant

agent, an antiperspirant, a sun screening agent, a sunless tanning agent, a hair conditioning agent, a pH adjusting agent, a chelating agent, a preservative, an emulsifier, an occlusive agent, an emollient, a thickener, a solubilizing agent, a penetration enhancer, an anti-irritant, a colorant, a propellant and a surfactant.

58. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 34, having a pH that ranges from 4 to 7.

59. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 58, having a pH that ranges from 4 to 6.

60. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 34, wherein said skin or mucosal membrane ailment is selected from the group consisting of verruca vulgaris, plantar warts, palmar warts, periungual warts, planar warts, mosaic warts, genital warts, venereal warts (condylomata acuminata), butcher's warts, malignant epidermodysplasia verruciformis, advanced intraepithelial dysplasia, cervical cancer, mepidermodysplasia verruciformis, cutaneous warts in immunosuppressed patients, laryngeal papillomas and oral papilloma.

61. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 34, being packaged in a packaging material and identified in print, in or on said packaging material, for use in the treatment of said skin or mucosal membrane ailment.